

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



INTERNATIONAL PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(43) International Publication Date
7 September 2001 (07.09.2001)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 01/64929 A1

- (51) International Patent Classification⁷: C12N 15/84, 5/04, 15/10, 15/13, A01H 5/10, 5/00, C12P 21/08
- (21) International Application Number: PCT/US01/06274
- (22) International Filing Date: 28 February 2001 (28.02.2001)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data: 60/185,661 29 February 2000 (29.02.2000) US
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- (81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).
- Published:
— with international search report
— with amended claims

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: PRODUCTION OF ANTIBODIES IN TRANSGENIC PLASTIDS

(57) Abstract: This invention provides compositions and methods for the transformation of plastids of plant cells with multiple genes, and proper association or assembly of multimeric proteins that are heterologous to the plastids of plant cells. A plasmid construct encoding all of the individual polypeptide components of the multimeric protein is provided. Stable integration of the heterologous coding sequences into the plastid genome of the target plant is accomplished through homologous recombination. The present invention achieves assembly of immunoglobulin heavy and light chains, with covalent bonding between the chains, into immunologically active immunoglobulins in the chloroplast.

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